

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity)

Applicant(s): Yoshinori TAJIMA et al.

Docket No.

08228/018001

Serial No.

10/045,269

Filing Date

November 7, 2001

Examiner

R. Spitzer

Group Art Unit

1724

Invention: **PGAS SEPARATION APPARATUS AND GAS SEPARATION METHOD**

FEB 10 2003

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED

	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	17 -	20 =	0 x	\$18.00	\$0.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	2 -	3 =	0 x	\$84.00	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$0.00

- ☒ No additional fee is required for amendment.
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____
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- ☒ Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.
- ☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.

Signature

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" (37 CFR 1.10)Applicant(s): **Yoshinori TAJIMA et al.**

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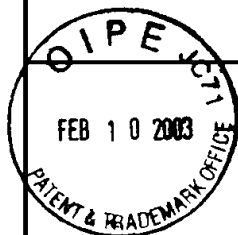
Filing Date

November 7, 2001

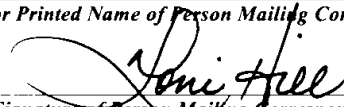
Examiner

R. Spitzer

Group Art Unit

1724Invention: **GAS SEPARATION APPARATUS AND GAS SEPARATION METHOD**I hereby certify that this **Reply Under 37 CFR 1.111***(Identify type of correspondence)*

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20231-0001 on **February 10, 2003***(Date)***Toni Hill***(Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)*
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Yoshinori TAJIMA *et al.*
Serial No.: 10/045,269
Filed : November 7, 2001
Title : GAS SEPARATION APPARATUS AND GAS SEPARATION METHOD

Art Unit : 1724
Examiner : Spitzer, R.

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

REPLY UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

In response to the Office Action dated November 8, 2002, please amend the application as follows and consider the included remarks.

AMENDMENTS**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows. A marked-up version of the amended claims is attached.

1. (Amended) A gas separation apparatus for separating at least one specific gas from a gas to be treated which contains a plurality of specific gases, said apparatus comprising:
- a first separator for separating said gas to be treated into gas groups having different boiling points by distillation separation; and
 - a second separator for separating the at least one specific gas by performing chromatographic separation on at least one gas group separated by said first separator, wherein the second separator comprises a plurality of chromatographic columns, wherein the plurality of chromatographic columns each comprises at least one inlet valve and a plurality of outlet valves arranged such that the at least one gas group is sequentially supplied to the plurality of chromatographic columns by switching at least one inlet valve and the at least one specific gas is sequentially collected from the plurality of chromatographic columns by switching the plurality of outlet valves.